

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-01

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R 161956Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4520

INFO PAN CANAL

USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 4251

E.O. 11652: N/A

PGOV PN

SUBJECT: RESIGNATION OF VICE PRESIDENT SUCRE

REF: PANAMA 4230

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT (UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION)
OF DOCUMENTS SPECIFIED BELOW RELATING TO RESIGNATION OF VICE
PRESIDENT ARTURO SUCRE:

1. LETTER, SUCRE TO TORRIJOS, JULY 10, 1975

BEGIN QUOTE:

DEAR GENERAL TORRIJOS:

AS I HAVE BEEN TELLING YOU IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, MY
AILMENTS OF VISION AND OTHER HEALTH DISTURBANCES HAVE BECOME
AGGRAVATED IN THE PAST FEW DAYS.

I REGRET HAVING TO INFORM YOU THAT FOR THESE REASONS, I
WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR AUTHORIZATION TO WITHDRAW (RETIRARME)
FROM THE POSITION WITH WHICH THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT HAS
HONORED ME AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

YOU, AS A FRIEND AND AS GUIDE TO ALL OF US KNOW THAT
MY WITHDRAWAL (RETIRO) WILL NEVER BE FROM THE GOVERNMENT,
NOR FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY ACTION WHICH YOU LEAD. AS SOON
AS I RECOVER FROM MY AILMENTS, I WILL BE ACTIVE IN

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WHATEVER POSITION ("TRINCHERA") YOU DETERMINE FOR ME.

YOUR MOST AFFECTIONATE FRIEND, ARTURO SUCRE P. END QUOTE

2. LETTER, SUCRE TO PRESIDENT RAUL CHANG OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES, JULY 15, 1975.

BEGIN QUOTE

HONORABLE MR. PRESIDENT:

PERMIT ME BY THIS MEANS TO COMMUNICATE THROUGH YOUR EXCELLENCY TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CORREGIMIENTO REPRESENTATIVES MY RESIGNATION (ME RENUNCIA) FOR REASONS OF ILL HEALTH, FROM THE POSITION WITH WHICH THIS BODY AND THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT DISTINGUISHED ME AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA. I REQUEST THAT THIS RESIGNATION (RENUNCIA) FOR REASONS OF MEDICAL TREATMENT TO WHICH I SHOULD SUBMIT MYSELF, BE MADE EFFECTIVE AS FROM THIS DATE. VERY TRULY YOURS, ARTURO SUCRE P. VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC END QUOTE

3. PRESIDENTIAL DECREE OF APPOINTMENT OF PROVISIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

BEGIN QUOTE

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS CONSIDERING:

THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, LIC.

ARTURO SUCRE P., HAS PRESENTED HIS RESIGNATION (RENUNCIA) FROM HIS POST, EFFECTIVE AS FROM JULY 15, 1975, FOR REASONS OF ILL HEALTH;

THAT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES 168 AND 169 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF 1972 IT IS FITTING FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC TO SELECT A MINISTER OF STATE TO PROVISIONALLY ASSUME THE FUNCTIONS (OF THIS OFFICE) IN THE ABSENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT; THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO CONVOKE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CORREGIMIENTO REPRESENTATIVES IN ORDER TO ELECT A NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL PERIOD;

DECREES:

FIRST ARTICLE: DESIGNATES LIC. GERARDO GONZALEZ, MINISTER OF STATE, TO PROVISIONALLY ASSUME THE VICE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISION OF ARTICLE 168 OF THE CONSTITUTION.

SECOND ARTICLE: CONVOKES THE ASSEMBLY OF CORREGIMIENTO UNCLASSIFIED

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REPRESENTATIVES FOR JULY 18, 1975 TO ELECT A NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF BOTH SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE 143 AND ARTICLE 169 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF 1972.

ANNOUNCED AND PUBLISHED: DEMETRIO B. LAKAS, CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC END QUOTE

4. FOREGOING WERE CARRIED BY MOST MORNING SPANISH-

LANGUAGE DAILIES APPEARING IN APNAMA ON JULY 16
(ALL PRINTED FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE).

GONZALEZ

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PGOV, (SUCRE, ARTURO), (GONZALEZ, GERARDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006